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2015 a challenging year to replicate last year's depositors' bonus, says Tabung Haji

LEMBAGA Tabung Haji (LTH) expects 2015 to be a challenging year to replicate the payment of last year's depositors' bonus of 6.25% and an additional 2% haj bonus.

Deputy group MD/CEO Datuk Johan Abdullah said there are many factors that contributed to the challenging environment, among them, the flooding at the end of last year, weakening of ringgit and oil price decline.

"It's too early to tell (depositors' bonus projection) currently. If you are aware of the market outlook, business is challenging," he told reporters after the handing over of business tithe to Majlis Agama Islam dan Adat Istiadat Melayu Kelantan (MAIK).



Pic by Ismail Che Rus

Johan says LTH will continue to focus on local core businesses — Islamic banking, plantation and properties

LTH's business tithe disbursement to MAIK increases to RM4.04 million this year from RM3.87 million last year

due to the better overall performance of the board.

Johan said LTH will continue to focus on local core businesses — Islamic banking, plantation and properties.

At the same time, he said, the board will remain active as a long-term investor in the local stock market by investing in selective good quality stocks.

"There are a lot of opportunities here, therefore we are going to generate more domestic investment," he said.

Last year, LTH paid RM3.2 billion in bonuses to depositors, an increase of 23% compared to 2013.

Total revenue last year stood at RM3.29 billion, slightly lower from RM3.73 recorded in 2013. — *Bernama*